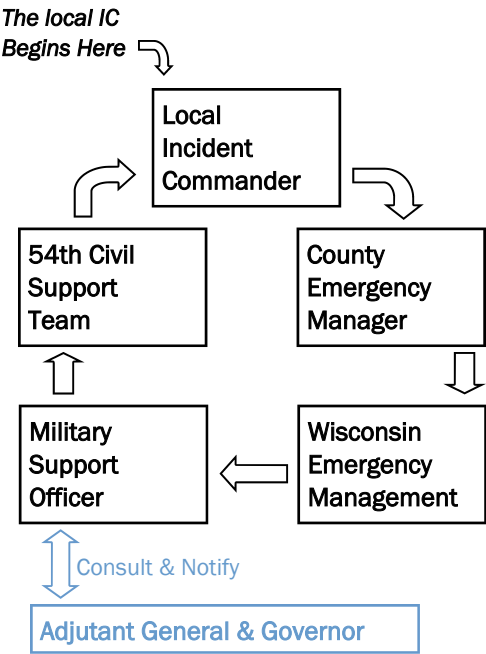


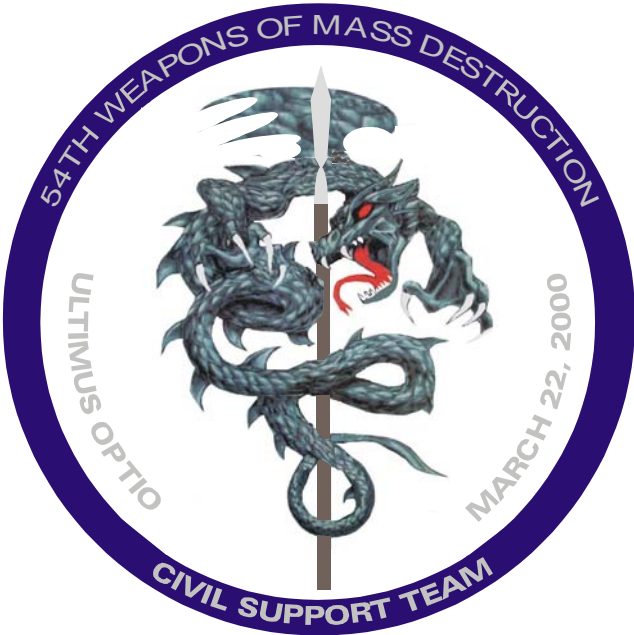
Requesting the 54th CST

If the local Incident Commander would like the 54th CST to assess, assist and advise them in a hazardous materials incident, they simply make a request with the county Emergency Manager. The request is then routed through Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) and the on-duty Military Support Officer (MSO) and finally to the 54th's Commander. The MSO also consults as necessary with The Adjutant General and the Governor.



54th Civil Support Team

1420 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608-245-8430
(For 24/7 Emergency, See Above)
Fax: 608-242-3196
Email: 54CST@wi.ngb.army.mil



Assess • Advise • Assist

Wisconsin's WMD Response Team

The 54th Civil Support Team is Wisconsin's full time response team for emergencies or terrorist events that involve weapons of mass destruction or toxic industrial chemicals. The 54th is able to rapidly deploy, assist local first-responders in determining the nature of an attack, provide medical and technical advice, and pave the way for the identification and arrival of follow-on state and federal military response assets. They provide initial advice on what the agent may be, assist first responders in the detection assessment process, and are the first military responders on the ground, so that if additional federal resources are called into the

situation, they can serve as an advance party. The 54th ensures that strategic national interests are protected against any enemy; foreign or domestic, attempting to employ chemical, biological, or radiological weapons - regardless of the level of WMD/NBC threat. They are a key element of the Department of Defense's overall program to provide support to civil authorities in the event of an incident involving weapons of mass destruction in the United States.



The 54th CST is stationed in Madison, WI.

Frequently Asked Questions...

Where did the WMD-CST's come from?



The first 10 CST's became operational in July and August 2001.

In 1998, President Bill Clinton announced that the nation would do more to protect its citizens against the growing threat of chemical and biological terrorism. As

part of this effort, he said, the Department of Defense would form teams to support state and local authorities in the event of an incident involving weapons of mass destruction. The 54th is part of "Phase IV" of that program. At the completion of Phase V, all 55 states and territories will have a WMD-CST.

What exactly does the 54th WMD CST do?

The 54th CST's mission is to support local and state authorities at domestic WMD/NBC incident sites by identifying agents and substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional military support.

What's the difference between the 54th and Wisconsin's Regional Hazardous Materials Teams?

Every member of the 54th is an IFSAC certified Hazardous Materials Technician. Unlike a traditional Level A hazardous materials team, the 54th has the personnel, training and equipment to specialize *only* in weapons of mass destruction, terrorism and in situations with unknown but highly toxic chemicals. They bring unique technologies and personnel to rapidly identify chemical and biological agents and radiological materials. The 54th also brings an unparalleled communications system allowing for "reach-back" to specialists around the country.

Who staffs the 54th and what type of training do they receive?

The 54th CST is staffed by 22 full time Army and Air Force personnel covering 14 different military specialties. They complete extensive scenario-based evaluations to be declared operational by the Secretary of Defense. The team receives over 12,000 hours of highly specialized training from military sources like the US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Disease and the US Army Chemical



The Survey section conducts sophisticated chemical analysis right in the hot zone.

Corps; and civilian training from agencies like the FBI, Department of Energy and NFA. There is also extensive manufacturer

training for their sophisticated equipment. Some of the more unique personnel are a hazardous materials modeler, physician as-

sistant, nuclear medical science officer, 2 satellite communications specialists and 8 very specialized WMD survey personnel.

What kind of equipment does the 54th bring to an incident scene?

In addition to the equipment most hazardous materials teams have, like Level A suits, SCBA's and basic chemical monitoring equipment, the 54th brings more exotic and so-



Headspace sampling GC-MS allows for sample detection in the parts-per-trillion range.

phisticated gear as well. Some examples: The survey team members can wear BG-4 Re-breathers and carry an Inficon HAPSITE GC-MS, Gamma Spectrometer

and antibody based HHA's right into the hot zone. The Analytical Laboratory System (ALS) has a headspace sampling GC-MS along with FT-IR spectrometry, PCR systems for DNA analysis of biologicals, and both optical and infra-red microscopy. The Operations section uses sophisticated computers and software for modeling the event and predicting outcomes and the Communications section has the ability to link virtually any communications system to any other and provide real time satellite links and secure encrypted communications worldwide.

Sounds expensive. Does the 54th compete for funding with other State and Local agencies ?

No. The 54th is unique because of its federal-state relationship. **They are federally resourced**, federally trained and federally evaluated, and they operate under federal doctrine. But they perform their mission primarily under the command and control of the Governor of Wisconsin.

Does the 54th do mass decontamination or Haz Mat cleanup & remediation?

No. The 54th CST is equipped to decontaminate it's own personnel, but does not have the capacity or personnel to decontaminate large numbers of victims. The 54th will do some minimal hazardous materials mitigation, but can not undertake a true remediation mission.

The 54th is military. Do they provide site security for an WMD event?

No. The team is armed and can defend its own personnel from an aggressor but is not set up to provide perimeter security or assist law enforcement (except technical advice). The WI National Guard does have the capability to deploy armed troops trained and equipped for work in a chemical or biological environment to assist with local security. This asset must be requested by the local Incident Commander through WEM and the Military Support Officer, and in most cases will require the Governor to declare an emergency.

Does the 54th provide medical treatment to victims?

No. The 54th has a Physician Assistant and paramedic highly trained in treating casualties from WMD's. They focus on "linking-up" with local EMS and hospitals to provide the information necessary to successfully treat patients within their normal EMS system. The 54th can provide hazardous materials Advanced Life Support for a limited number of first responders, but they do not have patient transport or evacuation capability.



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